

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 23, 2005
7:30 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Chairperson Steward, Vice-Chair Greck and Committee members Donald Burgess, Jeff Dudley, George Greb, Christina Pellicane, Casey Lee, and Toni Webb. Also in attendance was Urban Forester, Mike Orfanedes.

Chair Steward welcomed new Committee member, Jeff Dudley.

Mr. Dudley introduced himself to the Committee and spoke of his interest in learning more about the Town's open space program.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIR

George Greb made a motion, seconded by Donald Burgess, to nominate Joyce Steward as Chair. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion passed 8-0)

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Ms. Greck made a motion, seconded by Dr. Pellicane, to nominate George Greb as Vice-Chair. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion passed 8-0)

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 28, 2005

Ms. Greck referred to page 5 and requested correction of Item 4.1, second paragraph, last line, to state "as long as opinions on matters to be voted on were not discussed."

Vice-Chair Greb made a motion, seconded by Dr. Pellicane, to approve the March 28, 2005 Minutes, with the correction. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion passed 8-0)

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.1 Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR)

Chair Steward wanted to hold off on this item until Marcie Nolan arrived.

5.2 Web Page – Braulio Rosa

Chair Steward postponed this discussion to the next meeting.

5.3 Update on Status of Open Space Bond Referendum

Chair Steward stated the Town was moving forward on the mail ballot. She advised she had spoken with Vice-Mayor Hubert who wanted more hard numbers and education of the public. Chair Steward explained the role of the Committee with regard to the bond referendum process.

Vice-Chair Greb spoke of past involvement of political action committees on such issues. Ms. Greck was in favor of Town Attorney Kiar giving the Committee direction regarding such activities. Ms. Greck advised that she had spoken with a representative from the Trust for Public Lands, who indicated that TPL was willing to be involved in a political action committee and offered to provide information to the Town regarding setup of an "umbrella PAC". She advised they would be coming back to the Town on June 10 on other business. She further advised of "pro" and "con" campaigns in the works, with regard to the proposed bond.

Mr. Orfanedes distributed a May 4, 2005 article published in the *Sun-Sentinel* with regard to the Town's proposed bond.

Dr. Pellicane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Webb, to request that the Council direct Town Attorney Kiar to provide information to the OSAC with regard to what actions it could take in promoting the Open Space Bond Issue, without conflicting with its responsibilities as the OSAC, within 2 weeks' time.

In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion passed 8-0)

5.1 Marcie Nolan, Deputy Planning and Zoning Manager, arrived. Ms. Nolan gave a summary presentation on the EAR and distributed handouts to each Committee member. Ms. Nolan explained the EAR process and walked the Committee through various reports that comprised the EAR.

Ms. Nolan advised that the EAR would be adopted in early August. She advised that staff recommended that the Town:

- 1) conduct comprehensive survey of all current resources and
- 2) aggressively pursue acquiring land.
- 3) purchase strategically located parcels
- 4) improve maintenance of parks, trails and open space

Ms. Nolan commended Mr. Orfanedes and Ingrid Allen for their efforts on this project.

Don Burgess left the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

5.4 Master Trail System

Mr. Orfanedes summarized maps illustrating equestrian trails. The Committee and Ms. Nolan looked over maps outlining the Town's trail system and held general discussion of plans for various sites.

Ms. Lee left the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Ms. Greck mentioned that the timing of the bond referendum vote would not come in time for the committee to create the Master Plan to cover the next 7 years. She felt the Master Plan the Committee created would be after the fact. Ms. Nolan pointed out the Comprehensive Plan did not state what to do but what needed to be done – as a guide.

Vice-Chair Greb stated that multi-use trails should be stated in advertisements to be as inclusive as possible.

Chair Steward recommended that staff update the equestrian trails map further based on the Committees various recommendations.

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Adopt-A-Park

Chair Steward advised she had researched places with Adopt-a-Park programs and referred to relevant documents she had collected.

Mr. Orfanedes advised he had done research on Adopt-a-Trail programs. Ms. Webb suggested this activity for schools that needed service hour opportunities. Mr. Orfanedes believed Mr. Bernard would support this effort if it was managed well and indicated he would approach him to discuss this.

6.2 Capital Improvement Recommendations

Chair Steward requested the capital improvements proposals for the next 3 to 5 years so the Committee could start creating its Wish List for items not already addressed by the Town.

7. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

Dr. Pellicane commented on signage at trails in other communities and distributed a copy of *Rails to Trails* magazine.

Ms. Greck felt effort should be placed on implementing stated policy indicating that the Town's trails were ADA-accessible.

Ms. Nolan spoke of the ADA playground being designed.

Ms. Greck made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Greb, to ask Bruce Bernard to provide the Committee with an estimate of routine maintenance costs of the trail system. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion passed 6-0)

Ms. Webb requested that the signs in the ground be placed closer to the fence on the trail, on the west side of 130th Avenue, by the Kapok Tree (Long Key Natural Area).

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Steward made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Greb, to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 p.m. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion carried 6-0)

Approved

Chairperson/Committee Member